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The University Journal

NO EXCELLENCE WITHOUT LABOR.

VOL. 2.

WASHINGTON, D. C., APRIL 28, 1905.

No. 24.

HART AND HAWKINS.

Two Opposite Motives.

We noticed in "The Lancet", of Baltimore, April 1st, the head line of an article, "A Shattered Idol," and thought that surely we had come upon a grand treat, but when we had read to the end, and paused to reflect, and search for the element of the truth that might well have been expected from an article so attractively stated, our erst while treat became a sore disappointment. Our minds were more deeply impressed with what must have been meant when that great ancient writer said, "the mountains labored and behold there was produced a ridiculous mouse."

It will not be amiss to state here that we enjoyed an advantage over most people in that we knew before hand all of the facts in this case, and the facts of certain transactions relating thereto, that must have given impetus to the writing of this article; therefore we read it with peculiar interest, and studied it as a special exercise in philosophy and rhetoric. It would be a crime for which we might expect to answer were we to fail to pronounce Mr. Hawkins, the learned Editor of "The Lancet," a philosopher and a scholar of no mean ability; though we have not been told that he performed this wonderful feat, yet we know that it could have emanated from no other brain, could have issued from the point of no other pen than his.

How he marshalled a set of simple facts, his wonderful skill in distorting and perverting the truth are the remarkable features of the composition. The first, last and most important duty a newspaper, or any other public instructing agency owes to the public is to exercise great care that the facts are correctly stated, but you, Mr. Editor, seem to have a great propensity for imposing upon your readers a statement of your conclusions. We can see how in that you designed us a great favor, but let us exercise our minds, and trust us to think; and hope we may, like you, come to proper conclusions. If you do all of our thinking ere long what would be the condition of our thinking faculties? Truth is what the world wants. It is the only force in the world that has a saving power. "We shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free." For the sake of the race of which you pose as a great leader, if you print anything, print the truth. If you will teach us, then teach us principles, for principles are eternal. Your success as a leader, the success of your institution, or of any person or institution will be great and productive of lasting results in so far as you instruct the people in the principles that bind, upbuild

and move the people onward. Now, Mr. Hawkins, we will follow your article through and show your real position as against ours, not to instruct so learned a gentleman as you, but to show that you are (honestly or otherwise) mistaken; or that you do not know the facts in this case—we cannot think but that you are better informed—or else you have willfully and maliciously stated that which you know in the recesses of your soul to be entirely different.

You said that "Prof. Hart completely denied all connection with us, and takes himself body and soul and brains (if he has any of the latter) over in the camp of the Caucasians." You have never been more wrong in your life. We hope you will not miss heaven like you have missed this point. Prof. Hart has never tried to get away from the race. All who know the history of his life, and have seen him day by day for the past thirty years, know and say to a certainty and to a man, that he has spent his life in the service of the race and his study to its betterment. You, or some other one so able as you, would do the race a great service by writing the biography of so illustrious a gentleman. It would be highly instructive to all to learn what he has done. The success of his battles for the right would furnish hope for the race, and inspiration to young men. He has studied our every condition, and has endeavored in every case to find a proper remedy for our wrongs. His great ability, the thoroughness of his learning and the results of his devotion to the cause of liberty, justice and equality, was shown by the success of his contentions in his case vs. the State of Maryland, when he refused to go into a "jim crow" car, for which he was arrested and tried in your state in a manner and fashion so well known to you; culminating in a grand, sublime and unprecedented effort, the success of which struck down forever one of the most hellish devices that could be contrived by man against man; the same having been constructed and instituted by a state that is a stench and a disgrace to the nation. We shall now present a picture that was before us last fall. As everyone knows your state made its campaign on the race issue. The leaders were fair in that they told you in advance what they would do to you if they carried the state. Yet, some of you "race leaders" went to Pennsylvania, Ohio and other states, lands where God's people live, and there essayed to tell those people what to do, while those of you who remained at home allowed the Democratic party to vote more than five thousand colored voters of the classes who work about the water front. It can readily be seen what is indicated by these outlines.

Prof. Hart is a member of our race and a cham-

[Continued on Second Page.]

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Students and Alumni of the University are invited to contribute.

WASHINGTON, D. C., APRIL 28, 1905.

Notices.

The third annual reception of the Sophs by the Council of Upper Classmen will be held Wednesday May 3, in Andrew Rankin Chapel. All are invited. An excellent program will be rendered. Prof. Hart will speak. Admission free.

Reception in Miner Hall tonight. All are invited.

Our Base Ball season has not ended. All players are urged to continue practice. Two games will be arranged with Shaw.

The Senior Class will have Class Day Exercises Thursday, May 25. Further particulars will be given later.

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Don'ts

Don't give a bad example to young people.

Don't have crude, brutish, repulsive manners.

Don't half do things.

Don't fail to develop your possibilities.

Don't be guilty of plagiarism.

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Don't fail to fight for your rights.

Don't work just for the sake of money, and don't trust those who do.

Don't ask for a raise when you don't deserve what you get.

Hart and Hawkins.

[Continued from first page.]

pion of our every cause. He stands uncompromisingly for liberty, justice and equality for all men. He stands square on the constitution, and for every right which it guarantees to citizens of the United States. He is a citizen, and refuses to allow any one, public or private person, whether under color of law or otherwise, to call him by any other than by his legal name. We have no titles in this country. Prefixes and suffixes are had and used only as customary courtesies. No additions or special descriptions are warranted by the organic law of the land, and any citizen may reserve to himself the right to refuse them whenever he pleases, against the exercise of which no other citizen has a right to complain. His legal name is William, and Henry Harrison Hart is added to distinguish him from other Williams. When you have further said citizen of the United States, resident of the District of Columbia, you have said all that the law allows to be said without liability to objection.

We think this the correct and only position to take to procure our rights as citizens. We must object to State laws, and legal forms that farther describe us, for they are unconstitutional and invalid, therefore no laws at all; and such descriptions are intended to perform a solitary function, that is to serve as a means of sure and convenient discrimination against us. A device for the sole purpose of general separation and segregation, a policy contrary to the letter and spirit of our Constitution; against the spirit of all true American institutions, and diametrically opposed to every interest of humanity, that such a policy closes the door of hope, and stifles ambitions; and is enough to instill in every individual a spirit of anarchy is too obvious; and we shall not discuss it here. This policy must not prevail. We must object to and destroy it, and the laws that sustain it, wherever we meet them, or attempt is made to use them against us.

This is the idea, the motive, and the only motive that prompts Prof. Hart to stand as he does. He is in line with the spirit and thought of that consummate scholar and lawyer, who illuminated the world two thousand years ago, and whose maxims and dicta have been studied by all generations since, in line with that magnanimous heart and brain who exhibited the sublimity of his soul in these lines: "I long for the time when there will not be one law in Athens and another in Rome, one law now and another hereafter, but for the time when there will be one universal and eternal law that shall contain all the people of the earth."

This is the end to which all laws should tend, this the standard to which all people must conform if they would enjoy all of the rights as citizens of the United States in the light and spirit of our constitution. We admit that this is not a new idea, not a new position on our part. The professor's friends, and they are many, of both races, know that he has thus stood and fought for thirty years. So, Mr. Editor, if your lamentations are

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only now beginning, you are thirty years behind the times, and your wasted tears seem like the tears of the crocodile. Will you favor your readers by giving an explanation of your process of reasoning by which you concluded that if one is not a negro "he must be classed as a Georgia Cracker?" Another question, why do you people try to bring Howard University in question in these connections? What has the University to do with a question not within the scope of its duties as one of its professors, unless a question of morals is raised and adjudged against him? Suppose even your contention to be true, of what kind of men is the Faculty of the University largely composed and is it against our spirit and practice to have white men on our Faculty? If there were cause Prof. Hart would be removed, whether he were white or black. Mental and moral fitness are the questions examined into when we look for a professor, and not the color of his skin. True, he came here a "ragged, ignorant Alabama urchin, and is now an educated man," a professor in one of the race's leading universities. We are satisfied and glad to have him here, and only regret that there are so few who are so all-round fit to fill such places, or even to fill those that they now seem to hold. We wish you were so able an editor and barrister. But can you tell us at whose hands he got this place? There was a very lively interest manifested at this time. Everybody wanted it. Can you tell even one of the race, if you know that there was one, who was interested in his behalf? Can you tell your readers if our race ever has contributed one dollar toward the payment of his salary?

We want our readers to know that Prof. Hart is one of the six great men who gave and made Howard University possible, as it is today, a grand and great institution, blessing our land and all sections of the earth. Yet, you would intimate that a more worthy person should be in his place. Where will you find him? And where is the man who has done so much, and has received so little from the race in return?

His Maryland case was fought for you and for the race, by his ability and with his own money. The race gets the benefit, he the praise from all, except those who themselves should have done the trick but did not have brains enough, else lacked the manhood and moral courage required for so momentous an undertaking.

Mr. Editor, a lot of brains is charged up to you, why did you not come upon the scene at this opportune moment, devise and carry through a plan to kill the "James Raven" laws of your State, and thereby secure to your race rights under the Constitution equal to the rights of the carcass of a dead hog, or an original package of whiskey? You had rather wait for Professor Hart to

show the way, then you would come in to take the case, and get the glory, but you got left.

Now, is it not a fact that you are feeling a little unpleasant towards the grand and noble professor, lawyer and scholar, because he did not let you conduct the case, and thereby spoiled a nice chance for your league to pay a handsome fee? Well, the Professor is sorry for that part of the case, but he is good natured, and when some of the more important matters at hand are disposed of, he will look to see what he can do for his friends of that class to which the Lancet belongs.

You said that you were tired of certain kinds of men and women; we do not wonder that you are, but we do wonder what will happen when we, and the people in general, get a little more tired of you.

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